

COMMITMENT



Texas Department of Health
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

February, 1999

Volume 8, Number 2

Surgeon General Visits Memorial Health System

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher visited Memorial Health System in Lufkin on December 17 to help dedicate the Memorial Healthcare Plaza. The new \$20.5 million facility will give the hospital the ability to function better as a regional health care provider. Memorial Health System is a Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program provider.

"From what I've heard, the whole idea here behind the Memorial Health System is that this is not just a hospital, it's a health center," Satcher said, "and there are other hospitals - say within 30, 40 miles or more - here that are related to this hospital's center that will refer patients here for specialty care. So in that sense, it is a community resource."

The Memorial Healthcare Plaza will consist of the J.C. Clement M.D. Healthcare Center, the Horace M.



Surgeon General Visit -- Pictured (left to right) are Cindy Long, R.N., B.S.N., Nurse Manager, Memorial Health System; Dr. David Satcher, U.S. Surgeon General; and Virginia Evans, R.N., Share Van Coordinator, Memorial Health System. Dr. Satcher was at Memorial to dedicate the new Memorial Healthcare Plaza.

Cardwell Professional Tower, the Horace C. Polk Jr. Diabetes Center, a 200-seat Community

Education Center and improvements in other health care facilities, as well as renovations to the existing hospital.

What is Your Rescreening Rate?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently reported rescreening rates for all state programs which have provided screening for at least two years. The chart below shows rates for mammograms provided to women age 40 and older who were previously screened under the Program.

A committee appointed by the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control

Program (BCCCP) met in January to discuss new Program parameters for rescreening rates in Texas. A new rescreening policy will go into effect September, 1999.

Providers who do not know their own rescreening rates may request this information from Steve Johnson, Systems Analyst at (800) 452-1955.

Mammography Rescreening Rates

Time from Screen	Nat'l	Texas
18 Months	28%	28%
30 Months	40%	40.1%

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BCCCP Briefs

Training

The **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** is sponsoring a teleconference about the final regulations of **Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA)**. The teleconference is scheduled for Thursday, **February 18, 1999** from 12:00-3:30 (CST). Presentations will include information on what inspectors will look for such as 1) personnel requirements, 2) outdated equipment, 3) reporting of results to patients, and 4) the consumer complaint process. Call **(800) 838-7715** for a local downlink site.

Who to Call & How to Reach Us...

General Information/Administration:

Margaret Méndez Robert Reeves
Nora Ogea Lurah Scott
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Professional Education, Clinical Services, Case Management:

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<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/bcccp/>

Local Changes

Please call or write Rhonda Jones, Administrative Technician, with **ANY** changes in local phone numbers, personnel or providers. Thank you.

Diet Book Creates Controversy

The recent book by Robert Arnot, M.D., *The Breast Cancer Prevention Diet*, has been criticized for making unfounded claims about the power of food to both cause and prevent breast cancer.

While the links between diet and cancer are a hot subject of research, many experts believe there are few definitive answers. They recommend fruits and vegetables along with avoiding obesity, but they generally say no diet has been proven to prevent breast cancer.

The American Cancer Society's spokeswoman Joann Schellenbach has said that while the book's advice on losing weight and exercise is sound, some of the nutritional material is highly speculative.

"The title is probably the worst

problem with the book," Schellenbach said, "As far as we are concerned, there's no body of scientific evidence to support the idea that there is a diet that will prevent breast cancer."

The American Council on Science and Health has published an extensive review of the book on their website, the report can be found at: http://www.acsh.org/publications/reports/Arnot98_page1.html.

Dr. Arnot has said that he firmly believes that women can reduce their risk of breast cancer by changing what they eat.

"Someone's got to get out in front and take a stand, and that's what I've done with this book," he said.

References: Daniel Haney, *Breast cancer diet book attacked*, Associated Press, 11/16/98.

BCCCP Providers Report Matching Contributions

For Fiscal Year 1997-1998, Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) providers reported matching contributions far exceeding the minimum requirement for the Texas federal cooperative agreement.

All federally-funded state breast and cervical cancer screening programs are required by law to contribute one non-federal dollar for every three dollars allocated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). All funds reported as a match to the Texas Department of Health (TDH) must be reported to the CDC. This match

may be comprised of "in-kind" contributions such as personnel time, supplies, postage, telephone expenses, or similar costs.

Matching sources from outside an agency include donated physician services and direct funding from other public and private entities such as, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, Avon, or others. Only contributions which qualify as Program-covered items may be reported, and funds which are reported as a match for other federal grants are not eligible.

Match continued page 4

Ask The Expert

*Don't forget, **you** can submit your own questions on any subject related to the program such as nursing, case management, billing, data or outreach. Send questions to Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199.*

Question: A woman is referred to the program for diagnostic services only. What sort of documentation is needed in order to enroll the woman in the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP)?

Answer: BCCCP needs all originating documentation on the woman. For example, BCCCP would need a copy of the clinical report and notes on the Clinical Breast Examination (CBE) if she was seen by another provider. We would also need documentation on any other procedures that led to the diagnostic examination.

Training Modules Available

Training modules on the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) will be available in February. The modules are designed to help orient new staff joining local BCCCP providers. Experienced staff also may use the modules to review particular components of the program.

The modules contain information on all program components. Four modules (Overview, Screening, Data and Billing) will be available in February. The remainder of the modules will be sent to providers throughout the year.

For more information on the training modules, call Claudia Himes, R.N., Nurse Consultant at (800) 452-1955.



1st Quarter Milestone Awards Announced

The 1st Quarter Milestone Awards were announced at the last Provider Quality Assurance Meeting. The awards were given to those that provided mammograms to the highest proportion of women age 50-64. The winners are:

Small Provider

- Texas Woman's University - Denton - 100%

Medium Provider

- South Texas Hospital - Harlingen - 100%

Large Provider

- Planned Parenthood of Cameron and Willacy Counties - Harlingen - 93%

Congratulations to this quarter's winners!

Grants Management Requirements

Just a brief reminder to Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program providers about current requirements for Grants Management.

✓ June 1 is the last day for the State to submit any revisions to your contract.

✓ Providers must bill within 30 days of the previous month's services.

✓ Providers must have payments direct deposited.

✓ Providers must submit final close out billings no later than 90 days following the end of the contract. For the BCCCP contract, November 30, 1999 will be the last day billings can be submitted.

If you have any questions regarding these policies, contact Kathy Kokel, Contract Specialist at (800) 452-1955.

Teleconferences for Cancer Survivors

CancerCare, Inc. is offering a teleconference program called *The Living with Cancer Learning Series*. The series is designed to offer information and practical tips to people living with cancer. The format allows people to listen and participate in the seminars from home or work.

The teleconferences are open to the public and free of charge. Registration is accepted up to one week before the conference date.

Calls are on Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST) (see the schedule in the circle).

To register for the teleconferences or for more information, call the Cancer Care Counseling Line at (800) 813-HOPE.

Teleconference Schedule

February 24, 1999
Coping with Fatigue

March 24, 1999
Challenge of Cancer in the Workplace: How to Communicate with your Employer

April 28, 1999
Support for Family Caregivers: Coping Strategies

Match continued from 2

The State office is required each year to report its match to the TDH Grants Management Division. Letters requesting certification of the actual amount of match contributed are mailed near the end of the project year to the providers that reported matching contributions in their funding applications. By certifying

the match amount, the provider verifies that it is auditable.

The BCCCP State office appreciates the dedication of staff time and other resources by providers. The success of the Texas program would not be possible without it.

Important Dates

February

February 15 - Presidents' Day

State Office Closed

February 18 - MQSA Teleconference
12:00 - 3:30 p.m. (CST)

February 24 - Cancer Care Teleconference

March

March 2 - Texas Independence Day

Skeleton Crew at State Office

March 15 - Colorectal Survey Due

March 24 - Cancer Care Teleconference

March 30-31 - Training, Austin

Orientation and Program Update
Call Karen McAnarney for more information
at (800) 452-1955

April

April - Distribution of Continuation Funding Applications (tentative)

April 18-24 - Minority Cancer Awareness Week

April 21 - San Jacinto Day

Skeleton Crew at State Office

April 28 - Cancer Care Teleconference

Women Served*:

108,472

Breast Screenings:

131,471

Cervical Screenings:

98,655

Breast Cancers:

679

Cervical Carcinoma in situ:

1,486

Invasive Cervical Cancer:

50

*As of January 6, 1999

Commitment

A monthly bulletin

Send news/information to:

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